



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FY-02-115

PSC SETS INTERVENTION DEADLINE IN TELEPHONE CASE

Jefferson City (January 4, 2002)---Alma Telephone Company, Alma Communications, Inc. d/b/a Alma Telephone Company (ACI) and Alma Long Distance, L.L.C. (Alma LD) have filed an application with the Missouri Public Service Commission seeking approval of a transfer of assets, proposed corporate reorganization and related transactions and granting a certificate of service authority.

Alma Telephone Company proposes to sell its interests in a cellular wireless carrier that is not regulated by the Commission in a transaction where the Alma Telephone Company will be merged with a merger subsidiary of the purchaser.

The Alma Telephone Company's Missouri regulated business and assets and liabilities will be transferred to Alma Communications, Inc. d/b/a Alma Telephone Company (ACI), a newly created corporate entity. ACI is requesting a certificate of service authority from the Commission. ACI will continue operations under the Alma Telephone Company's name and will adopt the Alma Telephone Company's tariffs. Alma Long Distance, L.L.C. (Alma LD) will also be owned by ACI. Alma LD is a regulated long distance provider. After the transaction the Alma Telephone Company will no longer be a Missouri regulated telecommunications company.

Applications to intervene and participate in this case must be filed on or before January 25, 2002 with Dale Hardy Roberts, Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102. Copies of the application should be sent to the following: Charles Brent Stewart, Stewart & Keevil, L.L.C., 1001 Cherry Street, Suite 302, Columbia, Missouri 65201; and the Office of the Public Counsel, P.O. Box 7800, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

If no proper party is granted intervention and neither the PSC Staff nor the Office of the Public Counsel requests a hearing, the Commission may determine that a hearing is not necessary and that the applicant may submit its evidence in support of the application by verified statement.

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